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DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: *Oct 17, 2018*

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FROM
FM USDAO BUENOS AIRES AR
TO
TO RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC
CONTROLS
~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ SECTION 01 OF 03 BUENOS AIRES AR (b)(3):10 USC 424
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SERIAL: (U) IIR (b)(3):10 USC 424

/********** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE **********/
BODY
COUNTRY: (U) ARGENTINA (AR); SPAIN (SP).
IPSP: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424
SUBJ: IIR (b)(3):10 USC 4 ARREST OF RETIRED AND ACTIVE OFFICERS (U)
WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. ~~REPORT CLASSIFIED C O N F I D E N T I A L.~~

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 20020715.
REQS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

SOURCE: A. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "LA NACION", BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA, 20020711 (U), SPANISH, INDEPENDENT-MODERATE PAPER WHICH APPEALS TO UPPER CLASS AND INTELLECTUALS. TENDS TO REPORT U.S. ISSUES OBJECTIVELY. INFLUENTIAL WITH POLICYMAKERS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, POLITICIANS AND THE MILITARY.

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

SUMMARY: ~~(C)~~ 36 RETIRED AND ACTIVE OFFICERS ARRESTED FOR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN MURDERS OF 18 MONTONERO GUERRILLAS IN 1980. ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT REQUESTS EXTRADITION OF EX-INTEL OFFICIAL BEING HELD IN SPANISH

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JAIL. ARMY OFFICERS ANXIOUS BUT CALM OVER ARRESTS.
TEXT: 1. (U) SOURCE A REPORTED THAT FEDERAL JUDGE CLAUDIO ((BONADIO)) ORDERED THE ARREST OF THIRTY SIX (36) ACTIVE AND RETIRED OFFICERS FOR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN THE KIDNAPPING, DETENTION, TORTURE AND MURDER OF EIGHTEEN MONTONERO GUERRILLAS IN 1980 AS WELL OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS THAT OCCURRED DURING THAT TIMEFRAME. WHILE A COMPLETE LIST OF THOSE ORDERED BY JUDGE BONADIO TO BE DETAINED WAS NOT RELEASED, THE FOLLOWING NAMES WERE PROVIDED -
-- LEOPOLDO FORTUNATO ((GALTIERI)). RETIRED TENIENTE GENERAL (FOUR STAR U.S. EQUIVALENT) AND FORMER PRESIDENT.
-- CRISTINO ((NICOLAIDES)). RETIRED TENIENTE GENERAL AND FORMER ARMY COMMANDER.
-- CARLOS GUILLERMO ((SUAREZ MASON)). RETIRED GENERAL DE DIVISION (THREE STAR U.S. EQUIVALENT) AND EX-COMMANDER OF THE I ARMY CORPS.
-- **JUAN RAMON** ((**MABRAGANA**)). RETIRED GENERAL DE DIVISION.
-- RAIMUNDO ROMERO ((OJEDA)). RETIRED EX-CHIEF OF THE FEDERAL POLICE.
-- JORGE CARLOS ((OLIVERA ROVERE)). RETIRED GENERAL DE BRIGADA (TWO STAR U.S. EQUIVALENT).
-- ENRIQUE JOSE DEL ((PINO)). RETIRED LIEUTENANT COLONEL. FORMERLY ASSIGNED TO TASK GROUP 2 AT CAMPO DE MAYO.
-- SANTIAGO MANUEL ((HOYA)). RETIRED LIEUTENANT COLONEL FORMERLY ASSIGNED TO 601 INTELLIGENCE BATTALION.
-- ARIAS ((DUVAL)). RETIRED CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE ARMY FORMERLY ASSIGNED TO THE 601 INTELLIGENCE BATTALION.
2. (U) SOURCE A REPORTED THAT THE INVESTIGATION BEGAN WHEN FAMILY MEMBERS WANTED TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE EIGHTEEN MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL INFANTRY TROOPS (TROPAS ESPECIALES DE INFANTERIA - TEI) OF THE MONTONEROS WHOSE LEADER AT THAT TIME, ROBERTO ((PERDIA)), WAS RESIDING OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY. A NUMBER OF MONTONEROS, TO INCLUDE PERDIA, WERE BETRAYED BY THEIR COMRADES TO THE MILITARY, RESULTING IN THEIR ARREST AND DETENTION. FOUR MONTONEROS WERE KIDNAPPED IN RIO DE JANEIRO,

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BRAZIL ON 12 MARCH 1980 WHEN THEY TRIED TO RETURN TO ARGENTINA FROM EUROPE WITH THE INTENTION OF PARTICIPATING IN A NEW GUERRILLA COUNTER-OFFENSIVE. THE ACTUAL MONTONERO COUNTER-OFFENSIVE WAS LAUNCHED ON 07 NOVEMBER 1979 WITH THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF JUAN ((ALEMANN)) AND CONTINUED SIX DAYS LATER WITH THE MURDER OF BUSINESSMAN FRANCISCO ((SOLDATI)) AND HIS DRIVER IN THE CENTER OF BUENOS AIRES.

3. (U) SOURCE A REPORTED THAT CLAUDIO ((SCAGLIUZZI)) WAS ARRESTED IN BARCELONA, SPAIN, ON 28 AUGUST 2001 FOR INVOLVEMENT IN THE ARREST AND SUBSEQUENT MURDER OF THE EIGHTEEN MONTONEROS. JUDGE BONADIO HAS REQUESTED HIS EXTRADITION FROM SPAIN TO ARGENTINA. SCAGLIUZZI WAS A CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND THUS IS NOT COVERED BY AMNESTY LAWS PASSED AFTER THE RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE. SOURCE A CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT JUDGE BONADIO RECENTLY DECLARED THE AMNESTY LAWS DECREED UNDER THE ((ALFONSIN)) ADMINISTRATION AS BEING UNCONSTITUTIONAL. THE SUPREME COURT HAS YET TO MAKE A FINAL RULING.

4. ~~(C)~~ ON SEPARATE OCCASIONS, SOURCES B AND C STATED THAT THE ONLY ACTIVE DUTY OFFICER DETAINED FOR QUESTIONING IS ARGENTINE ARMY COLONEL ALBERTO JORGE ((CRINIGAN)). CRINIGAN WAS ALLOWED TO TURN HIMSELF IN TO MILITARY AUTHORITIES ON 11 JULY 2002 AND IS BEING HELD AT THE PATRICIOS INFANTRY REGIMENT LOCATED IN CENTRAL BUENOS AIRES. SOURCE B STATED THAT CRINIGAN WAS QUESTIONED BY JUDGE BONADIO DURING THE MORNING OF 15 JULY 2002. SOURCE B STATED THAT THE RESULTS OF CRINIGAN'S APPEARANCE BEFORE BONADIO IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME. IN 1980, CRINIGAN WAS REPORTEDLY ASSIGNED TO THE 601 INTELLIGENCE BATTALION. [redacted] COMMENT - CRINIGAN A FORMER DEPUTY J-2, DIRECTOR OF THE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE DIRECTORATE (DID) AND UNTIL HIS DETENTION, SERVED AS JOINT STAFF LIAISON TO THE STATE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SERVICIO DE INTELIGENCIA DEL ESTADO) SIDE AS CITED IN [redacted] 00/ARGENTINE ARMY COLONEL ALBERTO ((CRINIGAN)) IS JOINT STAFF DEPUTY CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE - AN EXPERIENCED INTELLIGENCE OFFICER IN A POTENTIALLY INFLUENTIAL POSITION (U)/DTG 141310ZFEB00.)

(b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(3):10 USC 424

5. ~~(C)~~ SOURCE B STATED THAT ASIDE FROM THOSE INDIVIDUALS ON HOUSE ARREST, ALL RETIRED GENERALS AND

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
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SOME COLONELS ARE BEING HELD AT THE GRANADEROS CAVALRY REGIMENT AND THE OTHER OFFICERS ARE IN CUSTODY AT THE PATRICIOS REGIMENT. SOURCE B EXPLAINED THAT UNDER ARGENTINE LAW, INDIVIDUALS OVER THE AGE OF SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE CAN PLACED ON HOUSE ARREST INSTEAD OF GOING TO JAIL.

6. ~~(C)~~ ON SEPARATE OCCASIONS, BOTH SOURCES B AND C DESCRIBED THE MONTONERO TEI UNIT AS A SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT TRAINED TO CONDUCT URBAN TERRORIST OPERATIONS. SOURCE B CHARACTERIZED THE JUDGE'S ARREST ORDER AS A PROVOCATION AND QUESTIONED THE MOTIVES AND TIMING OF THE ARREST ORDERS -- LIKENING THEM TO PINCHING THE ARMY TO TRY AND GET A REACTION. SOURCE B OPINED THAT WHILE MOST OF THOSE ARRESTED WERE QUOTE BAD PEOPLE UNQUOTE AND DESERVED TO BE PUT IN JAIL, SOME OTHERS WERE ARRESTED FOR SIMPLY HAVING BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE 601 INTELLIGENCE BATTALION AT THE TIME OF THE ARREST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MONTONERO SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT.

7. ~~(C)~~ SOURCE B STATED THAT WITH THE CURRENT CRISIS IN THE COUNTRY AND TENSION EXISTENT THROUGHOUT SOCIETY AT THIS TIME, NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO QUOTE OPEN THIS PANDORA'S BOX UNQUOTE. ON SEPARATE OCCASIONS, BOTH SOURCES B AND C OPINED THAT THE ONLY PERSON WHO COULD BENEFIT FROM THIS IS EX-PRESIDENT AND CURRENT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE CARLOS ((MENEM)). (b)(3) 10 USC 424 COMMENT - JUDGE BONADIO WAS APPOINTED TO THE BENCH BY MENEM.) SOURCE B EXPLAINED THAT MENEM IS THE ONLY SERIOUS CANDIDATE THAT BENEFITS FROM INSTABILITY AND CAUSING UNCERTAINTY AMONG THE CIVILIAN POPULACE ABOUT WHAT THE ARMY MAY OR MAY NOT DO WILL CAUSE THE MIDDLE CLASS TO LOOK TO MENEM AS THE ONLY CANDIDATE STRONG ENOUGH TO MAINTAIN ORDER. SOURCE B STATED THAT WHILE SOME PEOPLE IN THE ARMY ARE ANXIOUS ABOUT WHAT THIS ACTION MAY MEAN FOR THEM, NOBODY IS TALKING ABOUT DOING ANYTHING OTHER THAN COMPLYING WITH THE LAW.

8. ~~(C)~~ WHILE ARMY OFFICERS ARE WORKED UP OVER THIS JUDICIAL ORDER, DURING A VISIT TO ARMY HEADQUARTERS ON 12 JULY Sec. 3.3(b) (1) DETECTED RESIGNATION AMONG MOST OFFICERS THAT MORE ARREST ORDERS ARE SURE TO FOLLOW FOR OTHER INCIDENTS CARRIED OUT DURING THE SO-CALL DIRTY WAR. A SHORT VISIT WITH ONE GENERAL OFFICER THAT

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: *Oct 17, 2018*

MORNING REFLECTED SOME OF THE ANGST THAT THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP IS EXPERIENCING. DESCRIBING THE JUDGE'S ARREST ORDER AS A PROVOCATION AND UNCALLED FOR, THE GENERAL OFFICER STATED UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT THE ARMY WILL COMPLY WITH ARGENTINE LAW AND OBEY THE JUDGE'S ORDERS.
COMMENTS: 1. ~~(C)~~ (b)(3) 10 USC 424 COMMENTS. WHILE THERE IS A MIXTURE OF OUTRAGE AND RESIGNATION AMONG THE OFFICER CORPS OVER THE JUDGE'S ORDERS, EXPECTS THAT AS LONG AS THE ACTIVE AND RETIRED OFFICERS ARE PERMITTED TO BE HELD IN MILITARY CUSTODY, THINGS SHOULD REMAIN RELATIVELY CALM IN THE MILITARY. Sec. 3.3(b) (1) Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

EVERYONE QUESTIONED THE MOTIVES AND TIMING OF JUDGE BONADIO'S ORDERS. ALMOST WITHOUT EXCEPTION, ARMY OFFICERS BELIEVE THAT THE ARMY HAS FOLLOWED THE RIGHT COURSE THROUGH THE RADICAL REFORMS CARRIED OUT SINCE 1983 AND THERE IS A VERY STRONG DESIRE TO LEARN FROM THE PAST, BUT AT THE SAME TIME PUT THE PAST BEHIND THEM. ARMY OFFICERS BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE DOING THE RIGHT THING BY REFUSING TO GET INVOLVED IN INTERNAL POLITICAL ISSUES AND HAVE NO DESIRE WHATSOEVER TO RETURN TO THE DAYS OF YORE WHEN THEY WERE MORE THAN WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN A COUP.
2. ~~(C)~~ OFFICERS ARE CONCERNED BECAUSE UNLESS THE SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS THE AMNESTY LAWS, ALMOST EVERY OFFICER COMMISSIONED BEFORE 1982 COULD EVENTUALLY BE HAULED BEFORE A JUDGE FOR INVOLVEMENT OF SOME KIND IN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. ANOTHER FLASHPOINT IS THE POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF OTHER SERVING OFFICERS IN FUTURE ARREST ORDERS FOR ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN DURING THE 1976-1982 MILITARY REGIME. INDEED, THERE ARE RUMORS IN THE PRESS OF OTHER LISTS THAT WILL BE ISSUED BY BONADIO FOR THE ARREST OF PERHAPS HUNDREDS MORE RETIRED AND ACTIVE MILITARY AND POLICE OFFICIALS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT ONE DID NOT HAVE TO ACTUALLY ENGAGE IN ANY ILLEGAL ACTIVITY TO HAVE LEGAL PROBLEMS. RATHER, JUST HAVING KNOWLEDGE AFTER A CRIMINAL ACT CAN BRING A CHARGE OF ACCESSORY AFTER THE FACT. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AN OFFICER ACTUALLY COMMITTED A CRIME OR NOT DURING THOSE YEARS, MOST, IF NOT ALL OF THEM CERTAINLY HAD SOME KNOWLEDGE OF THE COMMITTAL OF A CRIMINAL ACT THAT THEY DID NOT REPORT TO PROPER AUTHORITIES AND THIS IS THE

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Authority: EO 13526
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NET, IF SPREAD WIDE ENOUGH, THAT WILL GET THEM.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

3. ~~(C)~~ COMMENT. ALTHOUGH DISAPPOINTING, THE DETENTION OF ((CRINIGAN)) IS NOT OVERLY SURPRISING. HE HAD BEEN MOVED FROM HIS POSITION AS DIRECTOR OF DID, TO THE POSITION OF SIDE LIAISON. THIS LIAISON DUTY HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS A DEAD END. IF ONE WERE TO SPECULATE THAT THE ARMY HAD BEEN AT LEAST CONSULTED ABOUT THIS MOVE, CRINIGAN'S DETENTION COULD BE SEEN AS A WAY TO SATISFY THE DESIRE TO ARREST AN ACTIVE DUTY OFFICER.

4. ~~(C)~~

(b)(3):10 USC 424

5. (U)

ADMIN

COLL: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424
INSTR: (U
PREP: (U)
ACQ: (U) ARGENTINA, BUENOS AIRES (20020711-20020715).
DISSEM: (U) FIELD: EMBASSY AT BUENOS AIRES.
WARNING: (U) ~~REPORT CLASSIFIED C O N F I D E N T I A~~
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DRVD FM: DO HUMINT SCG, MARCH 2002
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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ SECTION 01 OF 03 BUENOS AIRES AR 002497
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SERIAL: (U) IIR 6 804 0230 02.

/********** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE **********/
BODY
COUNTRY: (U) ARGENTINA (AR); SPAIN (SP).
IPSP: (U) IFC1120; IFC1515; IFC2300; IFC1589; IFC2618; IFC2612.
SUBJ: IIR (b)(3) 10 U.S.C /ARREST OF RETIRED AND ACTIVE OFFICERS (U)
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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 20020715.
REQS: (U) DHCD054050A; D-IAC-1515-051-01; D-IAC-2610-039-01.
Sec. 3.3(b) (1 (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "LA NACION", BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA, 20020711 (U), SPANISH, INDEPENDENT-MODERATE PAPER WHICH APPEALS TO UPPER CLASS AND INTELLECTUALS. TENDS TO REPORT U.S. ISSUES OBJECTIVELY. INFLUENTIAL WITH POLICYMAKERS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, POLITICIANS AND THE MILITARY.
B. ~~(C)~~ (b)(3) 10 U.S. SENIOR OFFICER WITH ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION DUE TO POSITION. CONSIDERED RELIABLE.
C. ~~(C)~~ (b)(3) 10 U.S. SENIOR OFFICER WITH ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION DUE TO POSITION. CONSIDERED RELIABLE.
SUMMARY: ~~(C)~~ 36 RETIRED AND ACTIVE OFFICERS ARRESTED FOR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN MURDERS OF 18 MONTONERO GUERRILLAS IN 1980. ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT REQUESTS EXTRADITION OF EX-INTEL OFFICIAL BEING HELD IN SPANISH